

REMARKS

The specification and claims have been carefully reviewed in the light of the Examiner's election/restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed January 17, 2007.

The Examiner has required applicant to elect for prosecution:

- Claims 1-13 and 19-20, drawn to a farinaceous-based food product and a meal kit, classified in class 426, subclass 557.
- Claims 14-18, drawn to a method of making a farinaceous-based food product, classified in class 426, subclass 496.

Applicants do not rule out the possibility that the product may be made by another process. However, the product and claimed process are related because the food product has a protein additive and a hydrophobic ester and is dried in a manner to give a cross-section by scanning electron microscopy that visually displays substantially no protein fiber gaps or voids at about 2000 times magnification. Moreover, the product and process are in the same class, thereby minimizing any search burden. While the requirement of restriction is traversed, and reconsideration requested, applicants have provisionally elected Group I, claims 1-13 and 19-20, to be examined.

Respectfully submitted,
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